



LETTRE URGENTE DE LA FIE

Urgent letter 9-07

15 May 2007

Death of Mr Antonio Rodríguez (MH)

Madam President, Mister President,

It is with great sadness that we have learned of the death, on Monday 14 May, of Colonel Antonio Rodríguez (ARG), Honorary Member of the International Olympic Committee and FIE Member of Honour.

Colonel Rodríguez also practiced horse-riding, shooting, swimming and tennis, but this is in fencing that he obtained his best titles. He represented Argentina in the modern Pentathlon at the Olympic Games of London in 1948 and the Panamerican Games in 1951 (3rd in the team competition), and was Argentinian team champion at epee (1952 and 1957), individual champion at the South American Games (1957) and at the Rio de la Plata Games.

He was FIE international referee and member of the Directoire Technique at the Olympic Games of Munich in 1972. He was President of the Fencing Federation of Argentina (1970-1974) as well as of the South American Fencing Confederation (1970-1972). He organised Junior World Championships in Buenos Aires in 1973.

He was member of the IOC from 1990 to 2006, then Honorary Member since 2006. He was advisor to the Argentinian National Olympic Committee (1974-1977), President for 28 years, then President of Honour up to the present day. He was founder and President of the Organising Committee of the 1st Panamerican Winter Games at La Lenas, as well as of the Argentinian Olympic Academy.

Antonio Rodríguez was considered as the best sports manager of Argentina. Some people used to call him Antonio, and others « El Coronel », but he was greatly appreciated by everyone.

The International Fencing Federation expresses its deepest sympathy to the family of Mister Rodríguez as well as to the Argentinian fencing, in these painful circumstances.

René Roch
President